

Campaign Finance Committee Public Meeting

Hartford Town Hall

May 9, 2017

Committee members present: Jim Condos, Brady Toensing, Jake Perkinson, Madeline Motta, Liz Blum, Joshua Wronski

14 members of the public present.

Chair Perkinson opened the floor to comments.

Topics discussed:

“Passing the hat” donation reporting requirements
The role of the Secretary of State and Attorney General in campaign finance education and compliance
Maximum contribution amounts
The goal of disclosure and information availability to the public
Roll up contributions to a political party
Small donation tracking deterring contributions
The goal of the commission, to produce recommendations to improve campaign finance laws
The importance of disclosure of contribution sources
The importance of expenditure disclosure
Vendor-based accountability idea
PAC activities, requirements and difference between PAC contributions and candidate contributions
Filing dates
The definition of “Coordination” between PACs and candidates, and amongst candidates
In-kind donations and reporting
Public campaign finance and dates
The influence of outside money
Term lengths
Violation complaint sources for investigation
Lack of penalty for non-compliance with filing dates
The role of Town Clerks
Rules for lobbyists
Outside money in down-ballot races

Chair Perkinson closed the meeting.